

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1.941  
A2252

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

JUN 24 1969

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. Washington, D.C.

SS-318

May 29, 1969

## U.S. Crop Summary as of May 1, 1969

Winter wheat production, estimated at 1.1 billion bushels, is 1 percent below the April 1 forecast, 8 percent below 1968, and 7 percent less than 1967.

Orange production (1968-69 season) is estimated at 184.5 million boxes, 48 percent higher than the 1967-68 crop but about the same as 1966-67.

Grapefruit production estimate of 57.3 million boxes is 30 percent above a year earlier and 3 percent over 1966-67.

Peach crop in 9 Southern States at 815.5 million pounds is 4 percent below last year but 56 percent above 1967.

Late Spring Potato crop is forecast at 22 million hundredweight, 6 percent more than 1968 but 8 percent below 1967.

Milk production in April, estimated at 10 billion pounds, is 2 percent below a year earlier and 4 percent less than 2 years ago.

Egg production is estimated at 6 billion in April, 2 percent below both 1968 and 1967.

Hay Stocks on farms, placed at 24 million tons, is 5 percent less than a year earlier but 9 percent above 2 years ago.

## Winter Wheat Prospects Decline

Prospective production of winter wheat declined 1 percent in April to 8 percent below last year's record crop, and 7 percent below 1967. Expected yield per acre is a record 30.4 bushels, well above both last year and 1967, the Crop Reporting Board says.

The decline in prospects from a month earlier resulted largely from reductions in Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, and Washington. Winterkill appears to have been more severe than expected in parts of the northern Great Plains and the Pacific Northwest. Some fields in Texas and Oklahoma were being grazed rather than harvested for grain. Above normal temperatures and generally adequate moisture during April favored growth and development of wheat in most areas. Prospects improved in Missouri, the eastern Corn Belt and the southeastern States.

## Southern Peach Prospects Below Last Year

Peach production in the 9 Southern States is forecast at 815.5 million pounds, 4 percent less than last year but 56 percent larger than the light 1967 crop. Production prospects in the Carolinas and Georgia are somewhat below last year, more than offsetting larger crops expected in Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

## New Record High Expected for Oranges

The 1968-69 orange crop is now expected to set a new record high. Production is forecast at 184.5 million boxes, 48 percent above last season and slightly above the previous record crop in 1966-67.

Harvest was 65 percent complete by May 1. Grapefruit production is now forecast at 57.3 million boxes, 30 percent more than last year and 3 percent above the 1966-67 crop. About 72 percent of the crop had been picked by May 1. Lemon crop is now estimated at 17.1 million boxes--up 1 percent from last season but 5 percent below the 1966-67 crop. More than half the crop has been harvested.

## Fewer Spring Vegetables--More Spring Potatoes

Production prospects for spring vegetables (excluding melons) are slightly below last year and 4 percent below the 1967 crop. And prospects are less than a year earlier for snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, tomatoes, and asparagus. Prospects for output of strawberries are also below last year. Larger crops than a year earlier are expected for sweet corn, cucumbers, celery, onions, and greenpeppers.

Spring potato production is expected to be 6 percent above last year--indications of early and late spring crops are both up 6 percent.

## Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices Received by Farmers		Parity Prices Based on Data for April 1969
	March 1969	April 1969	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	20.46	20.63	47.58
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	1.28	1.28	2.75
Rice (cwt.)..... dol.	4.83	4.76	7.25
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.09	1.12	1.71
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	11.8	--	16.3
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)..... ct.	67.9	2 68.8	92.6
Milk, wholesale (cwt.)..... dol.	5.35	5.22	6.55
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	3 39.4	3 41.2	93.4
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)..... dol.	.898	.922	1.41
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	49.90	--	73.30
Flaxseed (bu.)..... dol.	2.86	2.87	4.24
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	24.80	24.50	1 --
Oats (bu.)..... dol.	.621	.614	.934
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	2.46	2.64	3.11
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	.997	.995	1.47
Sorghum, grain (cwt.)..... dol.	1.76	1.76	2.78
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.48	2.51	3.62
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	6.89	6.98	7.48
Oranges, on tree (box)..... dol.	2.33	1.79	3.59
Apples, for fresh use (lb.)... ct.	9.40	9.67	8.89
Beef cattle (cwt.)..... dol.	25.20	26.40	31.00
Calves (cwt.)..... dol.	30.70	32.10	36.30
Hogs (cwt.)..... dol.	20.00	19.60	25.70
Lambs (cwt.)..... dol.	27.40	28.10	30.40
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	14.7	14.1	21.1
Eggs (dozen)..... ct.	39.5	36.5	50.6

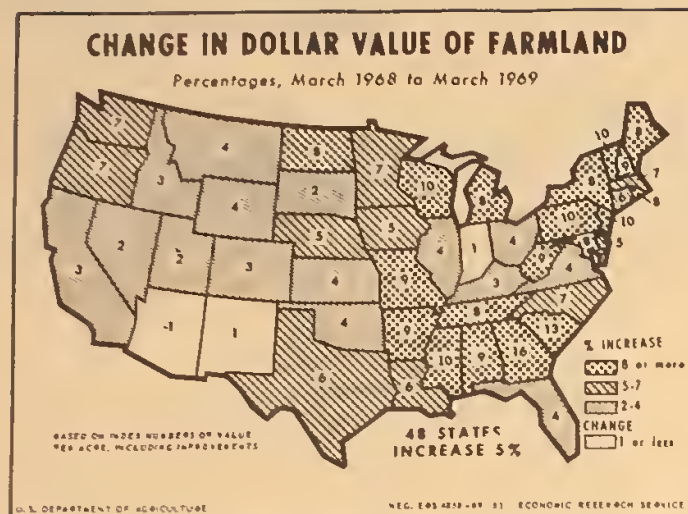
See SAM STAT Highlights

Pages 2-3

<sup>1</sup> Unpublished <sup>2</sup> Preliminary <sup>3</sup> Does not include incentive payment







FARMLAND VALUES gained in 47 of the 48 States in 1968-69. Highest value increases were in the eastern half of the country, where Georgia (16 percent) and South Carolina (13 percent) showed greatest gains of the 48. Increases, generally smaller in the western half, were highest there in North Dakota at 8 percent. Arizona showed a slight drop--less than 1 percent.

#### Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1968		1969		
	Apr.	Year Average	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Millions of persons					
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup> ..	71.3	72.1	72.9	73.2	73.5
Farm employment.....	4.7	4.7	3.6	4.0	4.6
Family.....	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.2	3.5
Hired.....	1.1	1.2	.7	.8	1.1
Index number (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....	162	165	170	171	172
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup>	184	188	197	199	200
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....	160	168	172	176	176
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> .....	140	146	148	151	151
All commodities.....	108	109	111	112	112
Farm commodities.....	102	102	105	106	106
Food, processed.....	113	114	116	116	118
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....	120	121	125	126	--
Food.....	118	119	122	122	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers.....	259	260	267	272	270
Crops.....	232	228	225	229	225
Food grains.....	167	160	156	156	156
Feed grains and hay.....	164	159	165	164	167
Cotton.....	166	169	166	173	174
Tobacco.....	563	567	583	583	584
Oil bearing crops.....	270	264	260	259	262
Fruit.....	298	292	265	279	255
Commercial vegetables.....	365	315	339	348	315
Livestock and products.....	282	288	302	308	309
Meat animals.....	348	346	362	375	385
Dairy products.....	305	318	330	323	317
Poultry and eggs.....	127	141	156	160	150
Prices paid by farmers.....	309	310	318	321	322
All commodities.....	333	335	344	347	349
Used in living.....	292	292	299	302	303
Used in production.....	292	292	299	302	303
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	353	354	365	369	372
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted.....	912	917	965	965	1028
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index).....	73	74	73	74	73
Adjusted parity.....	79	79	79	80	78

<sup>1</sup>Bureau of the Census, <sup>2</sup>Federal Reserve Board, <sup>3</sup>Department of Commerce, <sup>4</sup>Bureau of Labor Statistics - omitted if unavailable at press time.



## SAM STAT SAYS "Let's Keep Informed"

### FARM CORPORATIONS -- A Slim Part of the Action

Corporations today control only a slim share of commercial agriculture in the United States, and most of these firms are family run. These and other findings about corporate farms have come out of recent surveys made in 47 States by the Economic Research Service.

Although farm corporations in Alaska, Hawaii and California won't be reported until later this year, so far researchers have counted 11,550 farm corporations, equaling about one percent of all commercial units in the surveyed States. These farm corporations held some 7 percent of the land used for agriculture in those States -- crops, orchards, livestock and the rest. Their portion of gross farm sales turned out to be 8 to 9 percent.

#### MOST CORPORATE FARMS ARE IN THE FAMILY

Many U.S. farms have been in a family for generations, and most farm corporations seem to be merely a modern form of the old family farm. Researchers' findings confirm this view, because most of the reported farm corporations -- more than two-thirds -- are family affairs. Further, some of the 10 percent that are one-man corporations, are apt to have one or more family members as inactive partners.

The segment attracting most attention these days -- farms controlled by other types of corporations, often local nonfarm-related businesses -- made up less than 20 percent of the corporate total.

About two-fifths of all the corporations had interests off the farm, but most of these activities were tied to agriculture, such as feed, fertilizer, farm machinery or other such agribusiness.

#### WHAT CORPORATE FARMS DO WITH THE LAND

The farm corporations surveyed seemed to favor some form of livestock enterprise over crops -- usually with more animals per unit than the average farm. Beef cows led the parade of livestock. And in States mostly west of the Mississippi, cattle-on-feed was next most important, while in the east yearlings and milk cows were second. Corporate poultry units, especially concentrated in the Corn Belt, Lake, Delta, Southeast, and Atlantic Seaboard States, were found in all regions.

The farm corporations usually produced the same crops as other farms in their area. Much acreage was in soybeans, corn and other feed grains, wheat and hay. Specialty crops for canning, and vegetables were important in the Lake States. In the three Delta States, 80 percent of the corporate farmland was in soybeans, cotton and sugarcane.

Sugarcane in Florida occupied the largest average crop acreage per farm corporation, at 2,641 acres. Rice acreage averaged high in the Southern Plains at 1,105, and potato acreage ranged from an average 480 in the Pacific States to more than 1,140 acres per farm in Florida. Land devoted to sweetcorn for canning also averaged high -- over 1,000 acres in the Mountain States and more than 1,100 acres in the Corn Belt. Another canning crop, green peas, averaged 1,175 acres on corporate farms in the Corn Belt. Miscellaneous fruit farms in the Northeast States averaged 1,244 acres. Although high in average acreage, such crop units were few in number. A few relatively large cranberry and blueberry operations, for example, in the Northeast helped boost that region's average acreage for fruit.

Most crop producing farm corporations raised food and feed grains. In size, they ranged from an average 70 acres per wheat farm in Appalachia to 1,054 acres per farm for soybeans in the Delta States. Highest average wheat acreage was 729 acres per farm in the Pacific States, and acreage of corn for grain averaged highest in the Southern Plains at 556 acres. Many more corporate farms produce these commodities than raise fruits and vegetables.

Naturally, largest average acreage in corporate units was on ranches. Greatest average acreage in any corporate unit in the 47 States was 40,894 acres in New Mexico, and second highest was 22,024 in Nevada.

#### WHY INCORPORATE A FARM?

While more than half the farm corporations in the 47 States had been in business before the current decade, about 40 percent were incorporated between 1960 and 1966, and 8 to 10 percent in 1967 and early 1968.

One incentive to incorporating farms stems from special privileges for small businesses in the 1958 Tax Bill. Subchapter-S extended most of the tax advantages of general corporations to small businesses mainly having not more than 10 shareholders and only 1 class of stock. Internal Revenue Service data show that numbers of tax returns filed under these small corporation provisions had increased greatly by 1965--from about 500 in 1958 to about 5,000 for all 50 States.

(continued on page 4)

#### Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost <sup>1</sup>	Farm Value <sup>2</sup>	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1968 Average.....	1118	435	683	39%
1969 February.....	1136	452	684	40%
1969 March.....	1141	460	681	40%
1969 April <sup>3</sup> .....	1150	467	683	41%

<sup>1</sup>Retail costs of average quantities per family and per single person bought (1960-61) by wage and clerical workers, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. <sup>2</sup>Farmer's receipts. <sup>3</sup>Preliminary.

#### Cash Receipts<sup>1</sup> from Farm Marketings, by States, January-March 1969

State	Livestock and products		Crops <sup>2</sup>		Total <sup>2</sup>	
	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969
NORTH ATLANTIC						
Maine.....						
New Hampshire.....						
Vermont.....						
Massachusetts.....						
Rhode Island.....						
Connecticut.....						
New York.....						
New Jersey.....						
Pennsylvania.....						
NORTH CENTRAL						
Ohio.....						
Indiana.....						
Illinois.....						
Michigan.....						
Wisconsin.....						
Minnesota.....						
Iowa.....						
Missouri.....						
North Dakota.....						
South Dakota.....						
Nebraska.....						
Kansas.....						
SOUTHERN						
Delaware.....						
Maryland.....						
Virginia.....						
West Virginia.....						
North Carolina.....						
South Carolina.....						
Georgia.....						
Florida.....						
Kentucky.....						
Tennessee.....						
Alabama.....						
Mississippi.....						
Arkansas.....						
Louisiana.....						
Oklahoma.....						
Texas.....						
WESTERN						
Montana.....						
Idaho.....						
Wyoming.....						
Colorado.....						
New Mexico.....						
Arizona.....						
Utah.....						
Nevada.....						
Washington.....						
Oregon.....						
California.....						
Alaska.....						
Hawaii.....						
UNITED STATES						

<sup>1</sup>Estimates as of the first of current month. Latest revised data by months appear in the Farm Income Situation issued two times a year. Revised year-earlier data are released in the Statistical Summary, July. <sup>2</sup>Sales of farm products include receipts from loans reported minus value of redemptions during period. Rounded data may not add.





4

### Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Mar. 1968	Jan.-Mar. 1969
Dairy Production		Millions	
Milk .....	pounds	<sup>1</sup> 39,379	<sup>1</sup> 38,446
Evaporated whole milk .....	"	268.2	302.1
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food) .....	"	402.3	368.8
Butter, creamery .....	"	317.1	307.3
Cheese, American .....	"	294.9	281.6
Ice Cream .....	gallons	174.3	173.9
Poultry Production			
Eggs .....	--	<sup>1</sup> 23,756	<sup>1</sup> 22,863
Federally inspected slaughter <sup>2</sup>			
Chickens .....	pounds	2,103.1	2,251.0
Turkeys .....	"	125.7	110.9
Poultry used for further processing .....	"	281.3	291.8
Liquid egg .....	"	166.3	116.3
Dried egg (egg solids) .....	"	13.7	7.6
Frozen egg .....	"	91.8	66.9
Meat Production (dressed weight) <sup>3</sup>			
Beef .....	"	5,050	5,147
Veal .....	"	174	166
Pork .....	"	3,196	3,353
Lamb and mutton .....	"	153	142
Total red meat .....	"	8,573	8,808

<sup>1</sup> Jan.-Apr. <sup>2</sup> Ready-to-cook. <sup>3</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

### Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States<sup>1</sup>

Item	January - March		April	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
CASH RECEIPTS				
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> .....	Millions of dollars			
Livestock and products .....	9,419	9,913	2,846	3,100
Meat animals .....	6,008	6,455	2,034	2,200
Dairy products .....	3,617	3,849		
Poultry and eggs .....	1,451	1,523		
Other .....	826	968		
	114	114		
Crops .....	3,411	3,458	812	900
Food grains .....	391	386		
Feed crops .....	1,092	925		
Cotton (lint and seed) ..	192	189		
Tobacco .....	116	134		
Oil-bearing crops .....	428	533		
Vegetables .....	470	507		
Fruits and tree nuts ..	351	416		
Other .....	371	368		
Government payments ..	416	409		
Grand total .....	9,835	10,322		
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:				
	1957-59 = 100			
All commodities .....	108	108	91	94
Livestock and products ..	118	118	120	119
Crops .....	94	96	53	61

<sup>1</sup> Estimates as of the first of current month. Latest revised data by months appear in the *Farm Income Situation* issued two times a year. Revised year-earlier data are released in the *Statistical Summary*, July. <sup>2</sup> Sales of farm products include receipts from loans reported minus value of redemptions during the period. Rounded data may not add.

### FARM CORPORATIONS -- Continued from page 3.

Other reasons for incorporating farms are those created by the mounting stream of new production technology, and more and more complex farm supply and marketing systems which call for large capital investments. The impact of inheritance and gift taxes often can be lightened on a farm business by incorporation. Thus, the corporate farm, although not necessarily a new form of doing agricultural business, is an alternate form now receiving a lot of attention.

### SALES TALK

The 8 to 9 percent of gross sales of U.S. commercial agriculture that farm corporations ring up in the 47 States is well distributed throughout all farm income brackets. Smallest share of this business went to corporations grossing above \$500,000 for farm products. Most corporations had gross farm sales of less than \$100,000, and about two-fifths earned less than \$40,000 per year. Most of the farm corporations in all income brackets were family owned. As sales increased above \$100,000 the gap narrowed between family and non-family corporations, although about 55 percent of farms selling more than \$500,000 per year in farm products were family owned.

The study will wind up with data on corporate farms in Alaska and Hawaii, and show results of a special California survey now underway. California, one of the most farm-active of the 50 States, devotes much acreage to specialty crops, such as fruit and vegetables for processing. A more exact perspective of the corporate-farm picture should be ready for the industry later this year when surveys are completed.

William T. Schanger, Editor